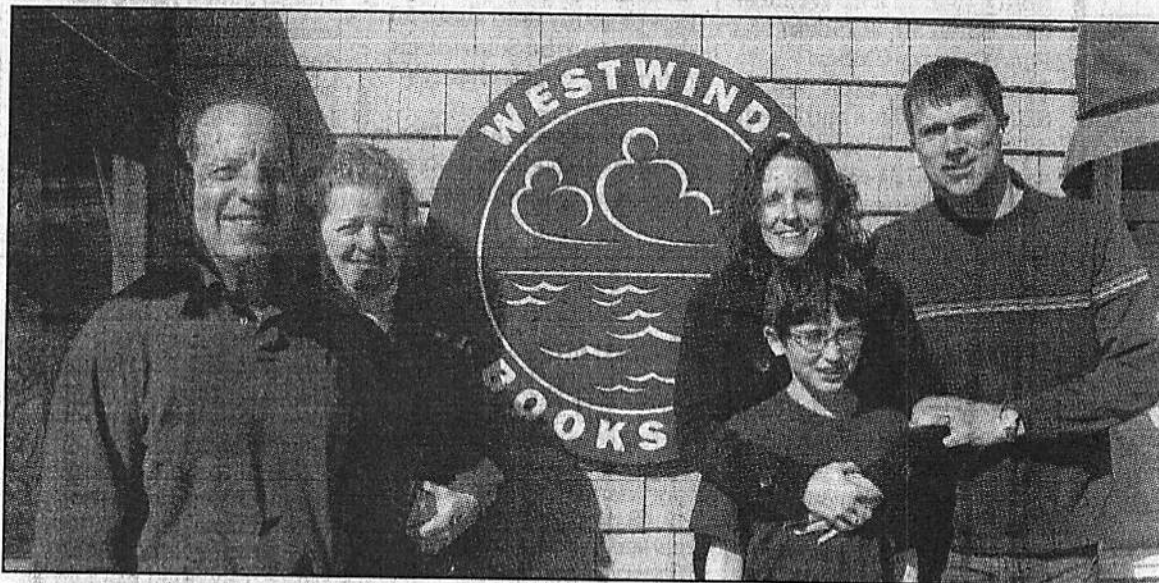


Duxbury Reporter

CHANGING HANDS

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# Westwinds accepts purchase offer



Doug and Lydia Hart, left, made an accepted offer to purchase Westwinds Bookshop from Chris and Marilyn Haraden, who are pictured with their son, Matthew. Westwinds is the South Shore's oldest independent bookstore and has been in Duxbury since 1946. PHOTO COURTESY OF BROOKE MCDONOUGH

## Bookstore bought by local couple

DUXBURY - It looks as though Westwinds Bookshop, the South Shore's oldest independent bookstore, will be continuing the tradition of selling books in Duxbury. The current owners, Chris and Marilyn Haraden, have accepted a purchase offer from Duxbury residents Douglas and Lydia Hart. A closing is scheduled at the end of the month.

The Haradens began looking for

a buyer at the beginning of this year and were searching for someone who would continue Westwinds' tradition of community service in the years ahead. The Harts, they feel, are just the people to do that.

"It's been a very positive and rewarding experience for us for the past six years, and we are very happy that Westwinds will continue to be a resource for the community for many years to come under the leadership of people with strong roots in town," Marilyn Haraden said.

"We know that our customers will support the bookshop's new ownership team and show them the same loyalty that has allowed Westwinds to remain a local tradition for 65 years," she added.

The long history of the store and its dedicated customers contributed to the Harts' decision to purchase the store.

"We have been Westwinds customers for years," Doug Hart said. "We've always appreciated having the

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bookstore in Duxbury, and we know that there is a loyal core of customers who, like us, do not want to see the tradition end."

Westwinds' history began in 1946, when Margaret Carter Metcalf established the Westwinds Book Shop and Lending Library in the carriage house of her Washington Street estate. The bookstore has been going strong ever since.

The Harts have lifelong ties to Duxbury. Both Lydia and Doug grew up summering in Duxbury and remember shopping at Westwinds at its previous Snug Harbor location. The Harts moved permanently to Duxbury in 1999 and have been actively involved in the community. Doug is co-founder of Penobscot Investment Management Co., Inc. in Boston and served as a co-chairman of the Open Space and Recreation Committee in Duxbury. He was a longtime treasurer of Plimoth Plantation and is the current chairman of the Wildlands Trust. Doug will continue to work at Penobscot, while Lydia will devote her efforts to Westwinds.

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Lydia was given Duxbury's Community Impact Award in 2009 for her work at the Duxbury Thrift Shop, which included expanding the shop to a bigger space, which, in turn, greatly increased its scholarship fund that annually provides scholarships to graduating, college-bound students of Duxbury High School. She's an avid reader and has always been one of Westwinds loyal customers.

The Harts will take full ownership of the store March 31, and they are quickly preparing for their first literary event April 7, when author Marianne Leone will visit the Duxbury Free Library for a reading, discussion and book signing of her book *Knowing Jesse*. The event is co-sponsored by the Duxbury Free Library, the Special Education Parent Advisor Council (SEPAC) and Westwinds.

"We are excited to be part of this event," Lydia Hart said. "We look forward to continuing Westwinds' partnership with the library and other town organizations to be a literary resource to the community; a bookstore that matters."

For more information and updates about Westwinds, join it on Facebook.